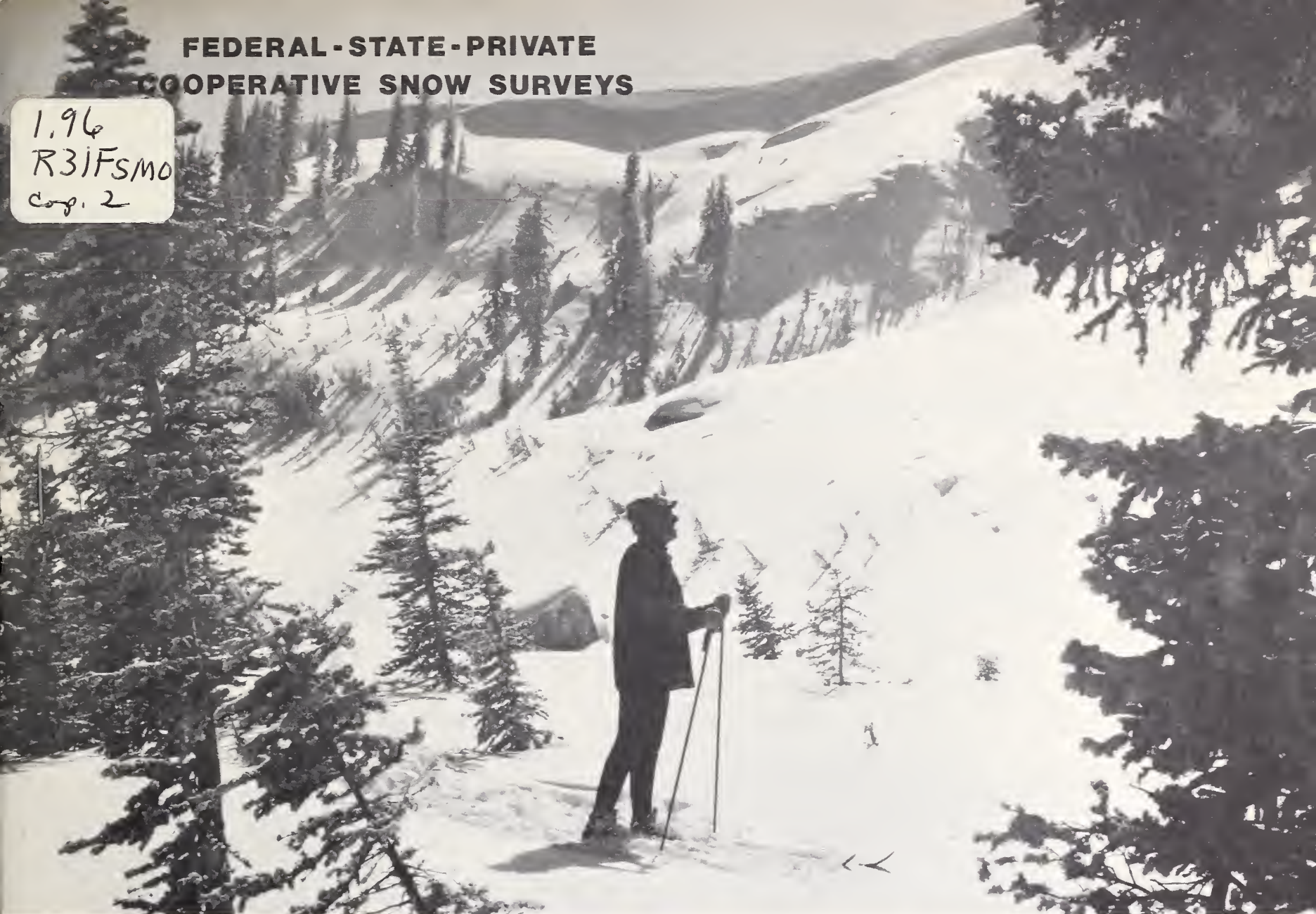


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FEDERAL-STATE-PRIVATE
COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

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WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR MONTANA

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
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Prepared by
U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
Collaborating with
MONTANA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with Federal, State, and private organizations listed on the inside back cover of this report.

AS OF
JAN. 1, 1971

TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states originates as mountain snowfall. This snowfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several months before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates of snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance of its occurrence. Streamflow forecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent of the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snow accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect on runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made on later dates.

The snow course measurement is obtained by sampling snow depth and water equivalent at surveyed and marked locations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each location. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly from January 1 through June 1 in most states. There are about 1900 snow courses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks of automatic snow water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radio telemetry are expanding and will provide a continuous record of snow water and other parameters of key locations.

Detailed data on snow course and soil moisture measurements are presented in state and local reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and soil moisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply outlook conditions, including selected streamflow forecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and storage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 of each year.

PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports following the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be obtained from Soil Conservation Service, Western Regional Technical Service Center, Room 209, 701 N. W. Glisan, Portland, Oregon 97209.

Copies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Soil Conservation Service in the following states:

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	P. O. Box "F", Palmer, Alaska 99645
Arizona	6029 Federal Building, Phoenix, Arizona 85025
Colorado (N. Mex.)	12417 Federal Building, Denver, Colorado 80202
Idaho	Room 345, 304 N. 8th. St., Boise, Idaho 83702
Montana	P. O. Box 970, Bozeman, Montana 59715
Nevada	P. O. Box 4850, Reno Nevada 89505
Oregon	1218 S. W. Washington St., Portland, Oregon 97205
Utah	4012 Federal Bldg., 125 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
Washington	360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, Washington 99201
Wyoming	P. O. Box 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82601

PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlook reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Water Supply Forecast and Snow Surveys Unit, California Department of Water Resources, P. O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802 --- and for British Columbia by the Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, Water Resources Service, Parliament Building, Victoria, British Columbia



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR MONTANA

and
FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

Issued by

KENNETH E. GRANT

ADMINISTRATOR
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

|||||
Released by

A. B. LINFORD

STATE CONSERVATIONIST
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
Bozeman, Montana

In Cooperation with

J. A. ASLESON

DIRECTOR
Montana Agricultural Experiment Station

|||||
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SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
P.O. Box 98
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MONTANA WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK
January 1, 1971

* * * * *
*
* The mountain snow pack is above average. Soil *
* moisture generally is average or above average. *
*
* * * * *

COLUMBIA RIVER DRAINAGE

Snow - The snow pack is about double that of a year ago, and is 125 to 140 percent average for this date in the Flathead, Clark Fork and Bitterroot drainages. Measurements begin in the Kootenai drainage in February.

Soil moisture is about average.

Streamflow - Forecasts will be issued on March 1. With the above average snow cover and soil moisture, it appears that streamflow this spring and summer will be at least average, and probably 10 to 20 percent above average.

MISSOURI RIVER DRAINAGE

Snow - The mountain snow pack is well above average in the Missouri River headwaters with record or near record amounts in the southwest portion of the drainage. Near or above average conditions prevail elsewhere. Snow cover is 233 percent average in the Jefferson, 187 percent average in the Madison, and 168 percent average in the Gallatin. Snow cover in the Missouri main stem is 116 percent average.

Soil moisture is generally above average.

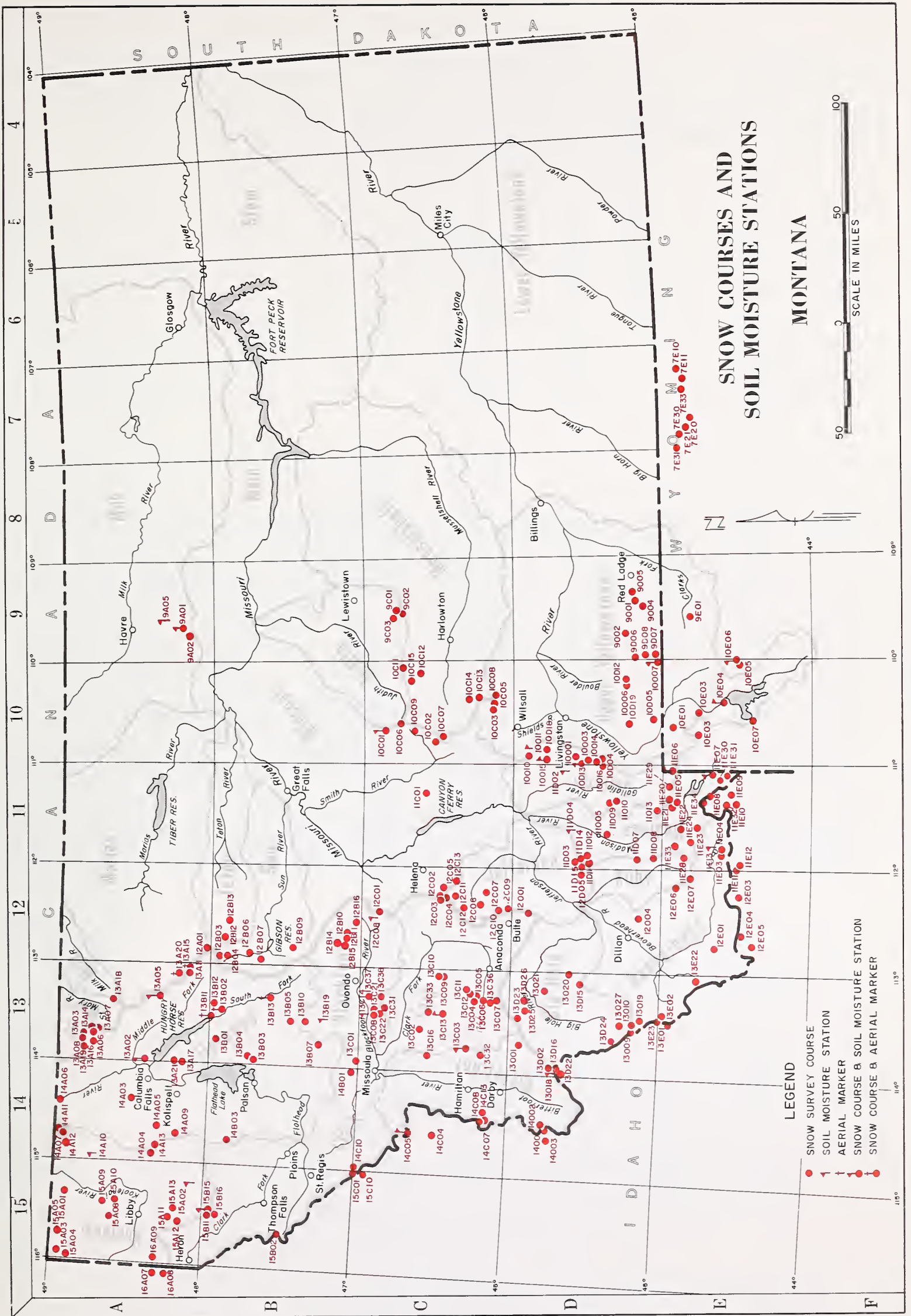
Streamflow - Forecasts will be issued on March 1. It appears that spring and summer water supplies will be adequate.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER DRAINAGE

Snow - The snow pack is well above average on the western side of the Yellowstone headwaters, and near average toward the northeast. The Yellowstone drainage snow cover is 144 percent average.

Streamflow - Forecasts will be issued on March 1.





INDEX to MONTANA SNOW COURSES and SOIL MOISTURE STATIONS

SNOW COURSES

Drainage Basin & Snow Course

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Record

Measuring Dates 1/2/

Meas. By 2/

COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

KOOTENAI RIVER	15411	5700	6	27N	31W	1969	3,4,5,53,6	1
4001 Eagle Peak	15411	5700	4	32N	31W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Sanfield Mountain	15411	5500	36	32N	30W	1956	3,4,5,53,6	2
Barre Creek	15411	5600	31	26N	30W	1965	3,4,5,53,6	2
Barre Trail	15415	4500	5	25N	30W	1965	3,4,5,53,6	2
Brishlow Creek	15410	3900	2	32N	26W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	1
Brishlow Creek	14204	5000	12	30N	26W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	1
Brush Creek Timber	14413	5000	12	30N	26W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	1
Edgar Grove	15413	4100	35	28N	31W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Garver Creek	15404	5400	20	37N	33W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Graves Creek	15405	4200	18	37N	32W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Hacklin Lake	15403	4250	18	37N	32W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Loft Creek	15409	3300	25	30N	35W	1969	3,4,5,53,6	1
Loft Creek	15409	4000	31	33N	29W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Loft Creek	15412	5100	5	27N	31W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Loft Creek	15412	6050	4	36N	29W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	2
Stahl Peak	14412	6050	5	36N	25W	1969	3,4,5,53,6	1
Seasel Divide	14407	5450	20	37N	24W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	1

FLATHEAD RIVER

Barroo Peak	14003	5150	11	26N	25W	1961	3,4,5	1,5
Barroo Peak	13411	5900	31	26N	25W	1964	3,4,5	1
Big Creek	13303	6750	7	22N	18W	1941	3,4,5, 6	1,5
Camp Misery	13417	6400	30	28N	18W	1962	3,4,5, 6	1,2
Desert Mountain	13402	5600	24	31N	19W	1937	1,2,3,4,5, 6	1,5
Fatty Creek	13304	5500	8	22N	18W	1962	3,4,5, 6	1,5
Flattop Mountain	13419	6300	12	28N	18W	1968	3,4,5	1,6
Gifford Creek Divide	14409	5150	11	28N	25W	1960	3,4,5	1,5
Ought Lake	13312	6300	35	26N	14W	1964	3,4,5	1,5
Neil Roaring Divide	14403	5770	35	26N	22W	1942	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	2
Holbrook	13313	4530	18	21N	13W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	1
Kilbuck	14406	3890	14	37N	22W	1954	3,4	6
Lozan Creek	14405	4300	34	30N	24W	1937	3,4,5	1,2
Marias Pass	13405	3250	34	30N	14W	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
Mineral Creek	13316	4000	29	32N	19W	1957	3,4,5	6
Northern Creek	13307	4000	33	17N	17W	1964	3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Northern Creek	13307	6300	33	17N	17W	1964	3,4,5,53,6	1,5
Spotted Bear Mountain	13302	7000	23	25N	15W	1948	1,2,3,4,5	1
Trinshaw Lake	13301	6100	9	25N	17W	1948	3,4,5	1
Trinshaw Lake	13311	3580	24	26N	16W	1941	1,2,3,4,5	1
Upper Holland Lake	13305	6200	28	20N	15W	1948	3,4,5	1

CLARK FORK RIVER

Black Pine	13313	7100	26	8N	15W	1959	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Clifton	13313	5600	7	8N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Copper Bottom	12816	5200	15	12N	8W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
Copper Camp	12814	6950	3	15N	9W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
Copper Creek	12810	5700	1	15N	9W	1962	3,4,5	1,2
Copper Lake Creek	12815	6100	3	15N	9W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
Cotton Mine	12811	6250	2	15N	9W	1962	3,4,5	1,2
Goyle Hill	13310	4200	12	18N	16W	1947	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
Griff Bull Pass	13309	7800	23	18N	12W	1949	3,4	1
Fred Creek Lake	13311	8000	12	6N	13W	1957	3,4	1
Gold Creek Lake	13311	8000	12	6N	13W	1957	3,4	1
Hearth Lake Trail	14310	7200	14	8N	12W	1949	3,4	1
Hoodoo Basin	14310	4800	11	14N	27W	1965	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Hoodoo Creek	14310	6000	17	14N	27W	1967	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Hoodoo Creek	15301	5900	16	14N	27W	1937	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Innigard	13304	6450	6	5N	13W	1936	2,3,4,5	4
Lobrecht Flume	13308	4800	13	13N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5	8
Lobrecht Forest No. 3	13321	5450	19	13N	14W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	8
Lobrecht Forest No. 4	13322	4600	11	13N	13W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	8
Lobrecht Hydroplan	13320	4200	22	13N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	8
Lobrecht Hydroplan	13327	4200	22	13N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	8
Northern Fork Elk Creek	13331	6250	20	13N	13W	1968	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	8
Peterson Meadows	13336	7200	2	4N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	2
Red Lion	13312	7100	22	6N	13W	1958	3,4,5	1
Shalkaho Summit	13303	7260	30	6N	17W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	1
Slide Rock Mountain	13302	7100	35	10N	16W	1937	3,4,5	1
Southern Cross	13305	6500	8	5N	13W	1936	2,3,4	4
Stora Lake	13307	7780	19	5N	13W	1936	1,2,3,4,5	4
Stuart Mill	13306	6500	19	5N	13W	1936	2,3,4	4
Stuart Mountain	13301	6800	6	14N	18W	1936	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	8
Twin Lakes	14301	7400	33	15N	19W	1936	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	8

BITTERROOT RIVER

Antelope	13316	6480	28	9N	18W	1960	3,4,5	1
Gayote Meadows Trail	13332	7000	20	4N	18W	1969	3,4,5	1
Gayote Fork R.S.	13301	5400	16	2N	17W	1937	3,4	1
Gibbons Pass	13302	7100	4	2S	19W	1934	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,3
Gibbons Pass	14307	5940	5	4N	23W	1960	3,4,5,53,6	1
Loft Lake	14302	5580	19	1S	23W	1937	3,4,5	1
Nex Perce Camp	14301	6570	25	1S	24W	1965	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Nex Perce Pass	14301	6570	25	1S	24W	1965	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Saddle Mountain	13302	7940	5	2S	19W	1968	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Tenmile Creek	14313	5600	34	5N	23W	1966	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Twin Lakes	14308	6510	32	5N	23W	1960	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1

ST. MARY RIVER BASIN

Nudson Bay Divide	13418	5800	24	36N	14W	1962	3,4,5	3
Leeburg Lake No. 3	13403	5600	1	35N	17W	1922	3,4,5	3,9
Josephine Lower No. 9	13414	4900	22	35N	16W	1955	5	3,9
Mount Allen No. 7	13407	5700	27	35N	16W	1922	5	3,9
Pleagan Pass No. 6	13406	5500	27	35N	16W	1922	5	3,9
Pleagan Pass No. 8	13408	5800	36	36N	17W	1937	5	3,9

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

BEAVERHEAD RIVER	13310	7400	12	8S	16W	1948	3,4,5	1
Beaver Creek	13304	7400	22	8S	16W	1963	3,4,5	1
Big Creek Lake	13322	8400	24	12S	13W	1965	3,4,5	1
Big Creek Lake	13315	8000	21	12S	13W	1935	3,4,5	3
Big Creek Lake	13315	8000	21	12S	13W	1935	3,4,5	3
Big Creek Lake	13315	8000	21	12S	13W	1935	3,4,5	3
Big Creek Lake	13315	8000	21	12S	13W	1935	3,4,5	3
Big Creek Lake	13315	8000	21	12S	13W	1935	3,4,5	3
Big Creek Lake	13315	8000	21	12S	13W	1935	3,4,5	3
Big Creek Lake	13315	8000	21	12S	13W	1935	3,4,5	3

SNOW COURSES

Drainage Basin & Snow Course

Elev.

Sec.

Twp.

Range

Record

Measuring Dates 1/2/

Meas. By 2/

COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

KOOTENAI RIVER	15411	5700	6	27N	31W	1969	3,4,5,53,6	1
4001 Eagle Peak	15411	5700	4	32N	31W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Sanfield Mountain	15411	5500	36	32N	30W	1956	3,4,5,53,6	2
Barre Creek	15411	5600	31	26N	30W	1965	3,4,5,53,6	2
Barre Trail	15415	4500	5	25N	30W	1965	3,4,5,53,6	2
Brishlow Creek	15410	3900	2	32N	26W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	1
Brishlow Creek	14204	5000	12	30N	26W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	1
Brush Creek Timber	14413	5000	12	30N	26W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	1
Edgar Grove	15413	4100	35	28N	31W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Garver Creek	15404	5400	20	37N	33W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Graves Creek	15405	4200	18	37N	32W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Hacklin Lake	15403	4250	18	37N	32W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Loft Creek	15409	3300	25	30N	35W	1969	3,4,5,53,6	1
Loft Creek	15409	4000	31	33N	29W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Loft Creek	15412	5100	5	27N	31W	1969	2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Loft Creek	15412	6050	4	36N	29W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	2
Stahl Peak	14412	6050	5	36N	25W	1969	3,4,5,53,6	1
Seasel Divide	14407	5450	20	37N	24W	1937	3,4,5,53,6	1

FLATHEAD RIVER

Barroo Peak	14003	5150	11	26N	25W	1961	3,4,5	1,5
Barroo Peak	13411	5900	31	26N	25W	1964	3,4,5	1
Big Creek	13303	6750	7	22N	18W	1941	3,4,5, 6	1,5
Camp Misery	13417	6400	30	28N	18W	1962	3,4,5, 6	1,2
Desert Mountain	13402	5600	24	31N	19W	1937	1,2,3,4,5, 6	1,5
Fatty Creek	13304	5500	8	22N	18W	1962	3,4,5, 6	1,5
Flattop Mountain	13419	6300	12	28N	18W	1968	3,4,5	1,6
Gifford Creek Divide	14409	5150	11	28N	25W	1960	3,4,5	1,5
Ought Lake	13312	6300	35	26N	14W	1964	3,4,5	1,5
Neil Roaring Divide	14403	5770	35	26N	22W	1942	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	2
Holbrook	13313	4530	18	21N	13W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	1
Kilbuck	14406	3890	14	37N	22W	1954	3,4	6
Lozan Creek	14405	4300	34	30N	24W	1937	3,4,5	1,2
Marias Pass	13405	3250	34	30N	14W	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
Mineral Creek	13316	4000	29	32N	19W	1957	3,4,5	6
Northern Creek	13307	4000	33	17N	17W	1964	3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Northern Creek	13307	6300	33	17N	17W	1964	3,4,5,53,6	1,5
Spotted Bear Mountain	13302	7000	23	25N	15W	1948	1,2,3,4,5	1
Trinshaw Lake	13301	6100	9	25N	17W	1948	3,4,5	1
Trinshaw Lake	13311	3580	24	26N	16W	1941	1,2,3,4,5	1
Upper Holland Lake	13305	6200	28	20N	15W	1948	3,4,5	1

CLARK FORK RIVER

Black Pine	13313	7100	26	8N	15W	1959	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Clifton	13313	5600	7	8N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1
Clifton	13313	5200	15	15N	8W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	6950	3	15N	9W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	5700	1	15N	9W	1962	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	6100	3	15N	9W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	6250	2	15N	9W	1962	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	7800	23	8N	12W	1949	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	8000	12	8N	13W	1957	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	7200	14	8N	12W	1949	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	4800	11	14N	27W	1965	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	6000	17	14N	27W	1967	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	5900	16	14N	27W	1937	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	4800	6	5N	13W	1936	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	4800	13	13N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	5450	19	13N	14W	1951	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	4650	23	13N	15W	1951	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	4040	11	13N	15W	1951	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2
Clifton	13313	4200	22	13N	14W	1971	1,2,3,4,5,53,6	1,2

SNOW

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average

COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

FLATHEAD RIVER

Desert Mountain	5600	12/30	39	9.5	3.4	6.5
Hell Roaring Divide	5770	1/04	62	17.0	5.8	13.2
Holbrook	4530	1/02	29	6.5A	1.6A	3.4
Marias Pass	5250	12/29	39	9.4	3.0	7.4
Spotted Bear Mountain	7000	1/02	39	9.0A	4.2A	6.5
Twin Creeks	3580	1/02	32	7.5A	3.2A	5.0

CLARK FORK RIVER

Black Pine	7100	12/28	21	4.6	2.8	3.9
Black Pine Pillow	7100	12/28	SP	5.5	3.6	5.1
Combination	5600	12/28	9	1.9	0.5	-
Coyote Hill	4200	1/05	23	5.4	2.6	4.3
Heart Lake Trail	4800	12/29	50	11.4	4.9	-
Hoodoo Basin	6000	12/29	89	25.2	12.9	-
Hoodoo Basin Pillow	6000				10.7	-
Hoodoo Creek	5900	12/29	84	23.4	10.2	18.0
Lookout	5250	12/31	85	21.8	9.0	15.7
Lubrecht Flume	4800	12/28	13	2.4	-	-
Lubrecht Forest No. 3	5450	12/28	14	2.7	-	2.6
Lubrecht Forest No. 4	4650	1/01	10	1.6	-	1.4
Lubrecht Forest No. 6	4040	12/29	10	1.8	-	1.6
Lubrecht Hydroplot	4200	12/28	13	2.0	-	-
North Fork Elk Creek	6250	1/03	24	4.9	-	-
Peterson Meadows	7200	12/30	23	5.3	-	-
Peterson Meadows Pillow	7200	12/30	SP	6.0	-	-
Storm Lake	7780	12/30	30	7.6	5.4	5.5
TV Mountain	6800	12/31	43	10.9	-	6.6

BITTERROOT RIVER

Gibbons Pass	7100	12/31	53	12.9	5.6	9.6
Lolo Pass	5230	1/02	65	15.8	6.8	13.4
Lost Horse	5940	12/30	53	13.6	7.2	-
Moose Creek	6200	12/30	36	8.0	3.7	-
Saddle Mountain	7940	12/31	56	14.4	7.1	-
Saddle Mountain Pillow	7900	12/31	SP	15.1	7.8	-
Savage Pass	6600	1/01	59	12.2	5.8	-
Twelvemile Creek	5600	12/30	40	9.4	4.4	-
Twelvemile Creek Pillow	5600	12/30	SP	6.8	3.8	-
Twin Lakes	6510	12/30	68	17.8	9.5	-
Twin Lakes Pillow	6400	12/30	SP	16.2	9.1	-

A - Aerial observation - water content estimated.

SP - Snow pillow observation - water content only.



SNOW

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

BEAVERHEAD RIVER

Camp Creek	6800	12/30	40	9.7	3.3	3.5
Kilgore	6200	12/28	41	9.6	4.0	3.5
Lakeview Canyon	6930	12/31	43	10.8	3.4	4.6
Lakeview Ridge	7400	12/31	36	9.6	3.2	4.2

JEFFERSON RIVER

Pipestone Pass	7200	12/30	11	2.3	2.5	2.2
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MADISON RIVER

Big Springs	6500	No Measurement			5.4	7.2
Hebgen Dam	6550	12/29	32	6.6	3.0	4.5
Island Park	6315	12/29	58	11.3	4.6	5.6
Norris Basin	7500	12/30	32	6.6	-	4.3
Targhee Pass	7000	12/30	50	12.1	4.0	-
Valley View	6500	12/30	47	12.2	3.2	5.3
West Yellowstone	6700	12/29	41	8.0	3.7	4.3
West Yellowstone Pillow	6700	12/29	SP	5.2	2.3	-

GALLATIN RIVER

Arch Falls	7350	12/29	28	7.0	7.6	4.3
Bridger Bowl	7250	12/30	61	19.4	14.7	9.4
Bridger Bowl Pillow	7250	12/30	SP	18.2	14.5	9.3
Devils Slide	8100	12/29	42	13.2	13.0	8.6
Hood Meadow	6600	12/29	26	6.4	8.2	3.5
Lick Creek	6860	12/29	24	5.7	6.2	3.3
Lick Creek Pillow	6860	12/29	SP	5.4	6.5	3.3
Maynard Creek	6210	12/30	38	10.8	7.9	-
Maynard Creek Pillow	6210	12/30	SP	7.0	5.8	-
Shower Falls	8100	12/29	48	14.8	14.7	10.2
Shower Falls Pillow	8100	12/29	SP	12.8	13.2	9.5
Twenty-One Mile	7150	12/29	52	12.6	4.6	7.2

SP - Snow pillow observation - water content only.



SNOW

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average

MISSOURI RIVER (MAIN STEM)

Chessman Reservoir	6200	12/31	9	1.6	0.0	1.4
Ten Mile Lower	6600	12/30	15	2.6	0.6	2.8
Ten Mile Middle	6800	12/31	24	5.3	1.9	4.3
Ten Mile Upper	8000	12/30	28	6.8	3.3	5.5

SUN-TEION-MARIAS RIVERS

Badger Pass	6900	1/02	90	25.0A	19.0A	-
Blue Lake	5900	1/02	52	13.0A	6.7A	-

MILK RIVER

King Creek Saddle	4550	12/29	11	2.2	-	-
King Springs	4150	12/29	10	1.9	-	-
Mission Mountain	5050	12/29	12	2.0	-	-

UPPER YELLOWSTONE

Canyon	7750	12/30	36	9.4	-	6.0
Grizzly Peak	8400	12/30	31	6.4	8.4	7.2
Lake Camp	7850	1/01	29	6.2	1.5	3.5
Lupine	7300	1/02	29	6.4	-	4.2
Northeast Entrance	7400	1/01	18	3.7	3.1	3.5
Northeast Entrance Pillow	7400	1/01	SP	4.3	4.1	-
Sylvan Pass	7100	12/31	37	8.6	3.5	5.5
Thumb Divide	7900	12/30	59	15.0	4.9	8.8

A - Aerial observation - water content only.

SP - Snow pillow observation - water content only.



SOIL MOISTURE

NOVEMBER 1, 1970

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or STATION		Profile (Inches)		Date of Survey	Soil Moisture (Inches)		
Name	Elevation	Depth	Capacity		This Year	Last Year	Average †

COLUMBIA RIVER BASINKootenai

Baree Trail	3800	48	7.5	11/02	5.5	5.5	5.8
Murphy Lake R. S.	3000	48	22.6	10/26	18.4	-	18.9
Raven R. S.	3050	48	23.0	11/02	18.1	18.2	18.5

Flathead

Desert Mountain	5600	54	8.4	11/03	6.5	-	6.7
Marias Pass	5250	54	6.5	10/28	4.0	-	4.6

Clark Fork

Black Pine	7100	48	10.0	10/28	7.9	7.6	7.9
Lubrecht Forest	4100	48	26.8	11/03	14.1	-	-
Seeley Lake R. S.	4030	48	11.9	11/02	4.0	4.5	4.7
Skalkaho Summit	7260	48	10.8	10/29	9.9	10.1	10.2

Bitterroot

Gibbons Pass	7100	48	7.1	10/27	5.4	3.8	5.5
Lolo Pass	5250	48	10.6	10/29	5.2	4.3	6.0

MISSOURI RIVER BASINBeaverhead

Lakeview	6700	48	15.3	11/02	7.0	5.7	5.9
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Madison

West Yellowstone	6700	48	6.5	10/28	3.0	1.8	2.6
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Gallatin

Bridger Bowl	7250	48	17.0	11/05	16.4	13.2	15.2
College Site	4856	54	14.5	11/02	12.4	14.8	8.6
Lick Creek	6860	48	18.8	11/04	17.5	18.4	18.0
Twenty-One Mile	7150	48	10.0	10/28	5.5	2.9	4.3

Missouri Main Stem

Kings Hill	7420	48	11.8	10/30	6.4	6.0	7.7
Stemple Pass	6350	48	5.9	10/29	3.9	4.0	4.1

Milk

Beaver Creek	3950	48	20.9	10/30	7.1	9.3	-
Rocky Boy	3950	36	10.1	10/30	9.1	9.4	-

Yellowstone

Battle Ridge	6020	48	17.6	11/05	16.5	-	11.6
Northeast Entrance	7350	48	9.4			5.0	6.9



SOIL MOISTURE

DECEMBER 1, 1970

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or STATION		Profile (Inches)		Date of Survey	Soil Moisture (Inches)		
Name	Elevation	Depth	Capacity		This Year	Last Year	Average †

COLUMBIA RIVER BASINKootenai

Baree Trail	3800	48	7.5	12/01	6.5	3.2	6.1
Murphy Lake R. S.	3000	48	22.6	11/24	18.7	-	19.4
Raven R. S.	3050	48	23.0	12/01	18.6	18.6	20.1

Flathead

Desert Mountain	5600	54	8.4			-	-
Marias Pass	5250	54	6.5	11/29	4.3	4.5	4.8

Clark Fork

Black Pine	7100	48	10.0	11/30	7.9	7.3	8.2
Lubrecht Forest	4100	48	26.8	12/03	15.0	-	-
Seeley Lake R. S.	4030	48	11.9	12/07	6.5	4.1	5.3
Skalkaho Summit	7260	48	10.8			9.8	-

Bitterroot

Gibbons Pass	7100	48	7.1	11/27	5.4	3.1	5.3
Lolo Pass	5250	48	10.6	11/27	6.6	4.8	6.4

MISSOURI RIVER BASINBeaverhead

Lakeview	6700	48	15.3	12/01	6.4	5.8	6.7
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Madison

West Yellowstone	6700	48	6.5	11/28	2.8	1.8	2.7
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Gallatin

Bridger Bowl	7250	48	17.0	12/01	16.3	15.4	15.2
College Site	4856	54	14.5	12/04	14.4	14.9	10.1
Lick Creek	6860	48	18.8	12/02	17.7	17.3	16.6
Twenty-One Mile	7150	48	10.0	11/28	5.4	2.7	3.6

Missouri Main Stem

Kings Hill	7420	48	11.8	11/27	5.6	6.6	7.6
Stemple Pass	6350	48	5.9	11/30	4.3	3.6	4.1

Milk

Beaver Creek	3950	48	20.9	11/30	7.0	9.2	-
Rocky Boy	3950	36	10.1	11/30	8.4	8.5	-

Yellowstone

Battle Ridge	6020	48	17.6	12/01	16.9	13.1	12.7
Northeast Entrance	7350	48	9.4			5.1	7.0



SOIL MOISTURE

JANUARY 1, 1971

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or STATION		Profile (Inches)		Date of Survey	Soil Moisture (Inches)		
Name	Elevation	Depth	Capacity		This Year	Last Year	Average †

COLUMBIA RIVER BASINKootenai

Baree Trail	3800	48	7.5	12/31	6.6	-	-
Murphy Lake R. S.	3000	48	22.6	12/28	18.9	19.0	19.5
Raven R. S.	3050	48	23.0	12/31	16.0	18.1	20.1

Flathead

Desert Mountain	5600	54	8.4	12/30	6.9	6.6	6.9
Marias Pass	5250	54	6.5	12/29	4.4	4.6	4.8

Clark Fork

Black Pine	7100	48	10.0	12/28	7.6	7.0	7.4
Lubrecht Forest	4100	48	26.8	1/02	14.6	-	-
Seeley Lake R. S.	4030	48	11.9	1/05	6.5	4.0	6.1
Skalkaho Summit	7260	48	10.8			-	-

Bitterroot

Gibbons Pass	7100	48	7.1	12/31	5.3	3.1	5.1
Lolo Pass	5250	48	10.6	1/04	6.0	4.8	6.4

MISSOURI RIVER BASINBeaverhead

Lakeview	6700	48	15.3	12/31	6.0	5.8	7.0
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Madison

West Yellowstone	6700	48	6.5	12/31	2.9	1.8	2.5
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Gallatin

Bridger Bowl	7250	48	17.0	12/30	16.7	16.5	15.4
*College Site	4856	54	14.5	12/28	14.4	14.8	10.0
College Site #2	4860	48	17.7	1/01	15.7	16.7	10.7
Lick Creek	6860	48	18.8			16.8	16.3
Twenty-One Mile	7150	48	10.0	12/31	5.7	2.7	3.4

Missouri Main Stem

Kings Hill	7420	48	11.8	12/31	5.7	6.4	7.1
Stemple Pass	6350	48	5.9	12/31	3.7	3.4	4.0

Milk

Beaver Creek	3950	48	20.9	12/31	6.8	7.4	-
Rocky Boy	3950	36	10.1	12/31	7.2	7.2	-

Yellowstone

Battle Ridge	6020	48	17.6	12/30	16.7	12.6	12.5
Northeast Entrance	7350	48	9.4	1/01	5.8	4.9	6.6

*Measurements have been discontinued on College Site and all records transferred to College Site #2.

RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet) END OF MONTH

Basin or Stream	RESERVOIR	Usable Capacity	Usable Storage		
			This Year	Last Year	Average

COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

Flathead	Hungry Horse	3,428.0	2,271.0	2,012.0	2,766.0
	Flathead Lake	1,791.0	1,282.0	1,336.0	1,330.0
	Camas (4)	45.2	16.2	17.6	26.7
	Mission Valley (8)	100.3	30.8	21.7	28.7
Clark Fork	Georgetown Lake	31.0	29.2	28.6	26.2
	Nevada Creek	12.6		-	4.3
	Noxon Rapids	334.6	324.4	325.7	321.1
Bitterroot	Como	34.9		4.3	6.9
	Painted Rocks	31.7	24.8	23.1	23.2

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

Beaverhead	Clark Canyon	328.9	139.3	141.0	122.4
	Lima	84.0	41.4	40.3	22.6
Ruby	Ruby	38.8		23.8	17.4
Madison	Hebgen Lake	377.5	266.5	266.4	170.6
	Ennis Lake	41.0	36.1	35.0	37.5
Gallatin	Middle Creek	8.0	3.4	3.4	2.9
Missouri	Canyon Ferry	2,043.0	1,719.0	1,779.0	1,676.0
	Hauser & Helena	61.9	62.5	72.3	58.2
	Lake Helena	10.4	10.7	10.4	9.2
	Holter Lake	81.9	81.9	78.8	70.5
	Smith River	10.7		4.4	5.6
	Durand	7.0		2.8	3.8
	Martinsdale	23.1		4.8	6.8
	Deadman's Basin	72.2		28.3	39.1
	Fort Peck	19,410.0	16,590.0	16,660.0	11,080.0
	Gibson	105.0	23.2	15.5	44.1
Sun	Willow Creek	32.3	20.6	17.7	20.2
	Pishkun	32.0	17.5	17.5	18.1
	Lower Two Medicine	16.6		5.1	0.0
Marias	Four Horns	19.2		12.8	12.3
	Swift	30.0	13.0	13.4	15.6
	Lake Frances	112.0	85.5	82.7	83.5
Milk	Tiber	1,347.0	462.5	557.3	625.4
	Fresno	127.2	66.1	73.5	61.9
	Nelson	66.8	51.0	49.4	44.4
Yellowstone	Lake Sherburne	66.1	15.2	14.0	15.3
	Mystic Lake	20.8	12.1	11.8	13.5
	Tongue River	68.0	29.5	29.6	18.8
Big Horn	Cooney	27.5	10.8	12.5	12.5
	Big Horn Lake	1,356.0	973.3	790.8	787.2



Agencies and Organizations Cooperating in Montana Snow Surveys

- U. S. Forest Service
Region I, Missoula, Montana
Montana Forests and Ranger
Districts
- U. S. Geological Survey
Helena, Montana
Portland, Oregon
- U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Portland, Oregon
Seattle, Washington
Walla Walla, Washington
Omaha, Nebraska
- U. S. Indian Irrigation Service
St. Ignatius, Montana
- U. S. Weather Bureau
Helena, Montana
Portland, Oregon
Kansas City, Missouri
- U. S. Bureau of Sports Fisheries
and Wildlife
Red Rock Lakes Refuge
Monida, Montana
- U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
Billings, Montana
Boise, Idaho
- U. S. Bonneville Power Administration
Portland, Oregon
- U. S. Soil Conservation Service
Montana, Wyoming, Idaho
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Montana Counties
- U. S. National Park Service
Yellowstone National Park
Glacier National Park
- Montana Power Company
Butte, Montana
- Montana Water Resources Board
Helena, Montana
- North Montana Branch Station
Agricultural Experiment Station
Havre, Montana
- Montana State University
Agricultural Experiment Station
Bozeman, Montana
- University of Montana
School of Forestry
Missoula, Montana
- Water Rights Branch, Dept. of
Lands and Forests
Victoria, British Columbia
- Department of Energy, Mines and
Resources
Calgary, Alberta

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supply, hydro-electric power
generation, navigation,
mining and industry

*"The Conservation of Water begins
with the Snow Survey"*